

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

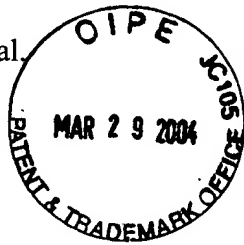
In re application of:

Vincent Bryan et al.

Serial No.: 09/924,298

Filed: August 8, 2001

For: IMPLANTABLE JOINT
PROSTHESIS



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Attorney Docket No. 31132.70

Customer No. 27683

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Priddy, Michael B.

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 2231

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MAR 01 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 14, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Amendment.

Remarks begin on page 19 of this Amendment.



Attorney Docket No. 31132.70 / PC877.07
CUSTOMER NO. 27683

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Bryan et al.

Serial No.: 09/924,298

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Examiner: Priddy, Michael B.

TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 01 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700


Sir:

Enclosed are the following documents regarding the above-identified patent application:

1. Amendment in response to the Office Action dated January 14, 2004;
2. This transmittal in duplicate; and
3. Return postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the papers submitted herewith or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,


David M. O'Dell
Registration No. 42,044

Dated: 3-23-04

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 3-24-04


Bonnie E. Boyle